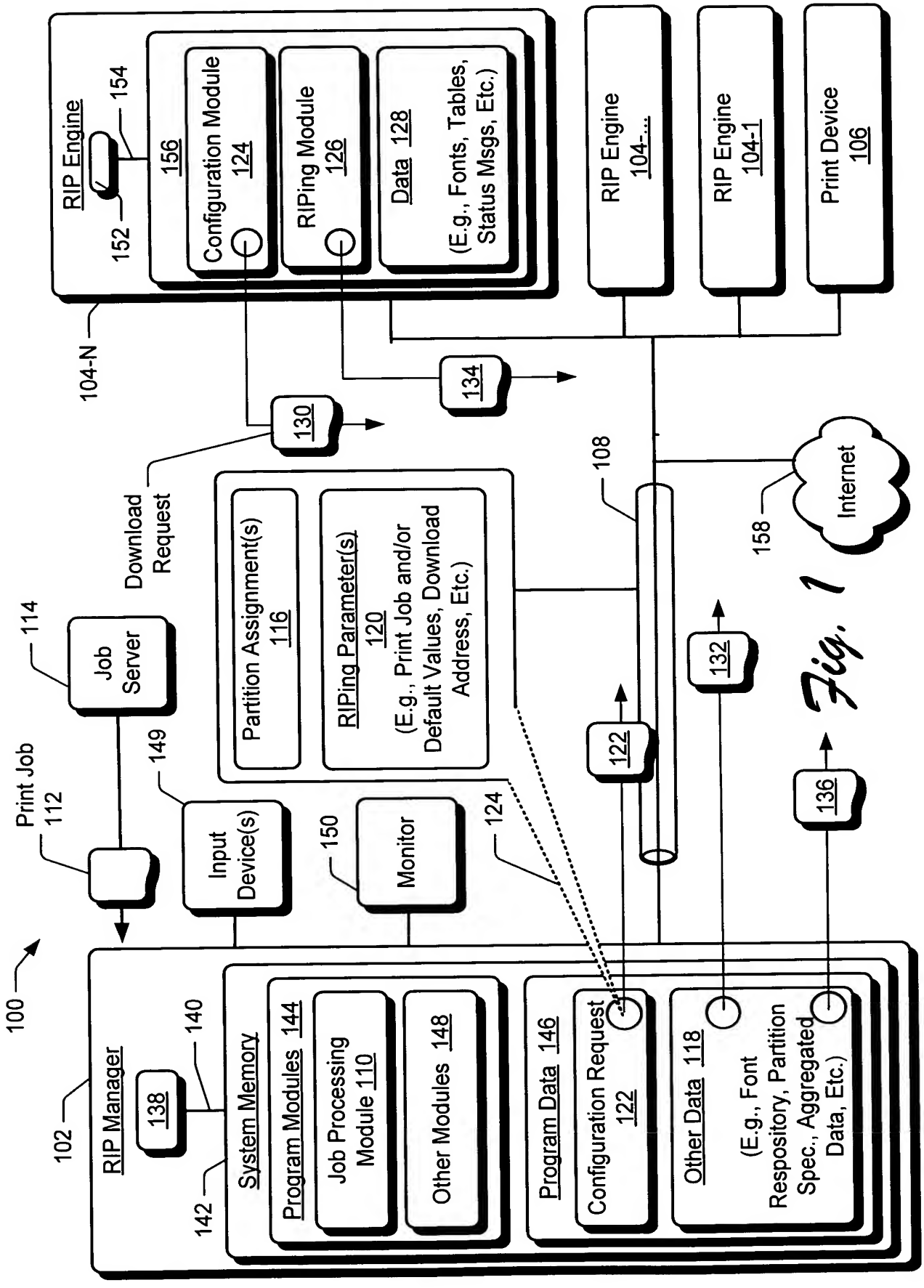
RIP Engine
154
152
156
Configuration Module 124
RIPing Module 126
Data 128
(E.g., Fonts, Tables, Status Msgs, Etc.)
104-N
RIP Engine 104-...
RIP Engine 104-1
Print Device 106
130
134
Download Request
Partition Assignment(s) 116
RIPing Parameter(s) 120
(E.g., Print Job and/or Default Values, Download Address, Etc.)
108
Internet
158
114
Job Server
Print Job 112
149
Input Device(s)
150
Monitor
124
122
132
136
100
102
RIP Manager
138
140
142
System Memory
Program Modules 144
Job Processing Module 110
Other Modules 148
Program Data 146
Configuration Request 122
Other Data 118
(E.g., Font Respository, Partition Spec., Aggregated Data, Etc.)

Fig. 1

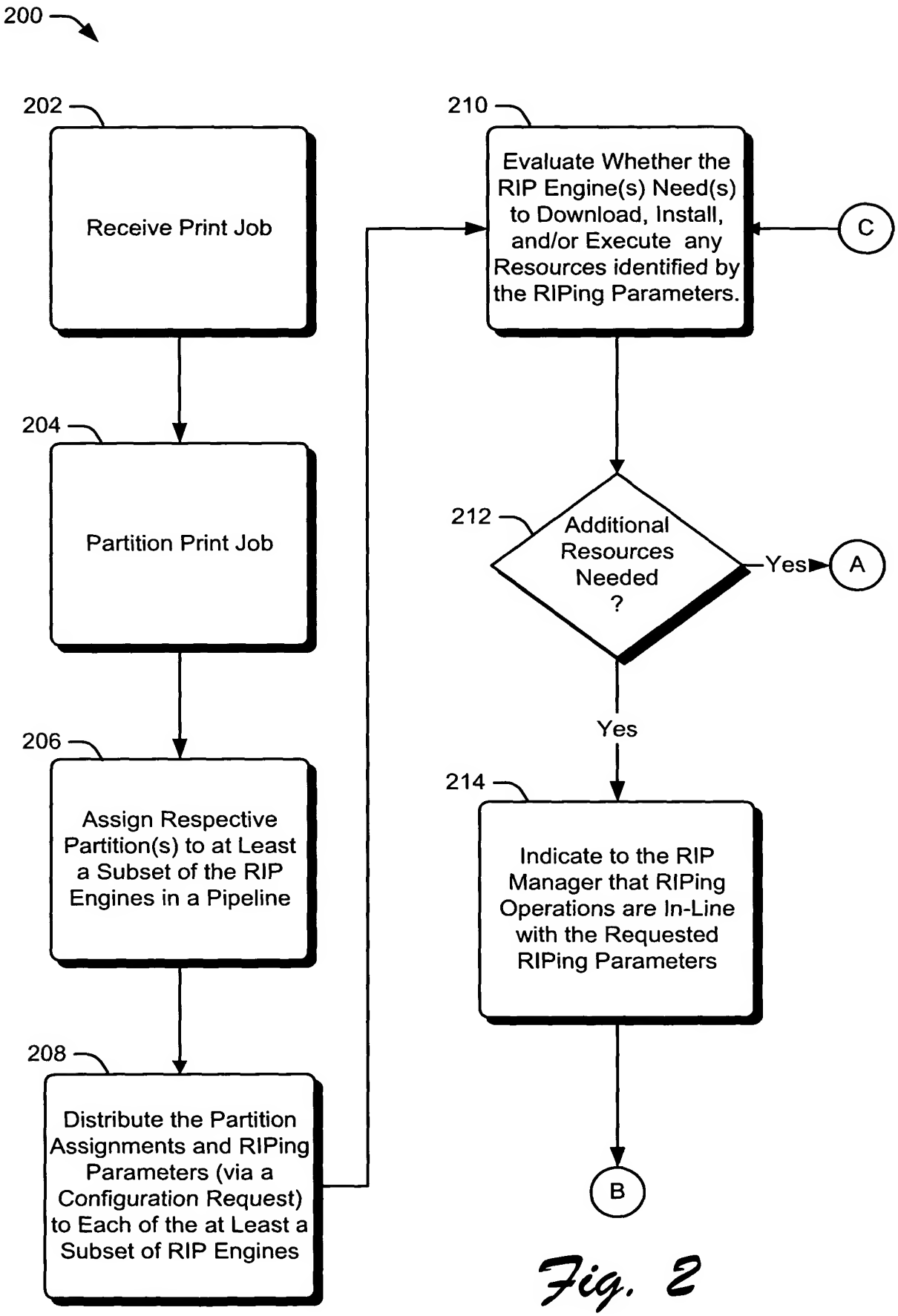
200
202
Receive Print Job
204
Partition Print Job
206
Assign Respective Partition(s) to at Least a Subset of the RIP Engines in a Pipeline
208
Distribute the Partition Assignments and RIPing Parameters (via a Configuration Request) to Each of the at Least a Subset of RIP Engines
210
Evaluate Whether the RIP Engine(s) Need(s) to Download, Install, and/or Execute any Resources identified by the RIPing Parameters.
C
212
Additional Resources Needed ?
Yes
A
Yes
214
Indicate to the RIP Manager that RIPing Operations are In-Line with the Requested RIPing Parameters
B

Fig. 2

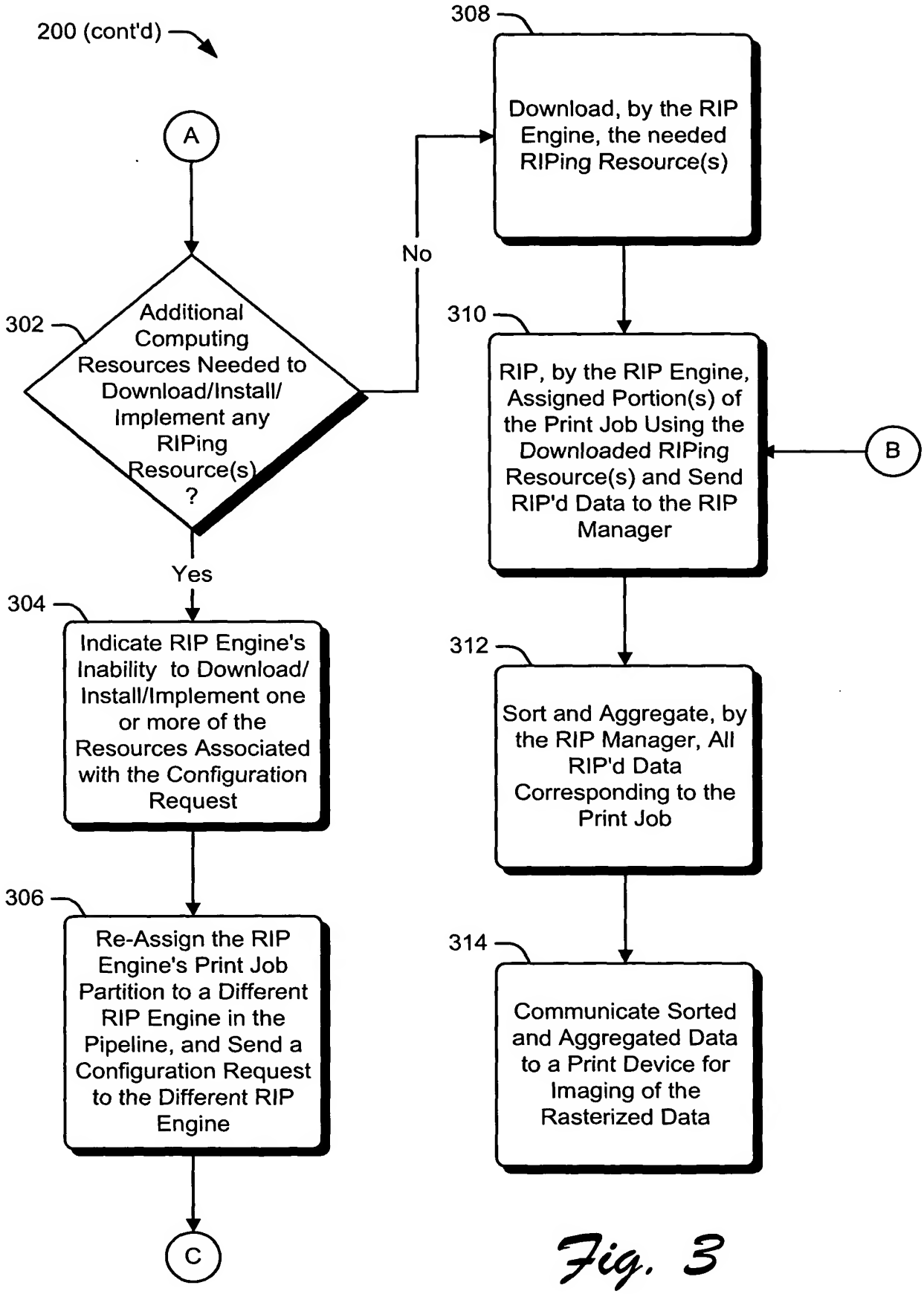
200 (cont'd)
A
302
Additional Computing Resources Needed to Download/Install/ Implement any RIPing Resource(s) ?
No
Yes
304
Indicate RIP Engine's Inability to Download/ Install/Implement one or more of the Resources Associated with the Configuration Request
306
Re-Assign the RIP Engine's Print Job Partition to a Different RIP Engine in the Pipeline, and Send a Configuration Request to the Different RIP Engine
C
308
Download, by the RIP Engine, the needed RIPing Resource(s)
310
RIP, by the RIP Engine, Assigned Portion(s) of the Print Job Using the Downloaded RIPing Resource(s) and Send RIP'd Data to the RIP Manager
B
312
Sort and Aggregate, by the RIP Manager, All RIP'd Data Corresponding to the Print Job
314
Communicate Sorted and Aggregated Data to a Print Device for Imaging of the Rasterized Data

Fig. 3